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TRANSMITTAL FORM <i>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</i>	Application Number	09/974,777	RECEIVED CENTRAL FAX CENTER APR 13 2004 OFFICIAL
	Filing Date	October 9, 2001	
	First Named Inventor	Prof. Dr. Max Schaldach	
	Art Unit	3731	
	Examiner Name	Thaler, Michael	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	18	Attorney Docket Number	117163-28

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation <input type="checkbox"/> Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):
Remarks Response to non-final action of 11 February 2004 Faxed to 703-872-9306 No fees believed to be due		
SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT		
Firm or Individual name	Stephen L. Grant; Hahn Loeser & Parks LLP	
Signature	<i>[Signature]</i>	
Date	13 APR 2004	

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING			
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below. Washington, DC 20231 on this date:			
Typed or printed name	Stephen L. Grant		
Signature	<i>[Signature]</i>	Date	04/13/2003

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Ser. No. 09/974,777

Response to Office Action of 11 February 2004

Atty Docket 117163-28

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICEApplicant: SchaldachExaminer: Thaler, M.Ser. No.: 09/974,777Art Group: 3731Title: STENTFiled: 9 October 2001Date: 13 April 2004**OFFICIAL****RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**

This letter is responsive to the Examiner's Office Action of 11 February 2004. No extension fee is believed to be due. No fees for excess claims are believed to be due. If there is any fee deficiency, please charge it to Deposit Account 15-0450.

This response is made under the revised 37 CFR 1.121.

The response has the following parts:

Amendments to the Specification - none made;

Amendments to the Claims - beginning on page 2;

Amendments to the Drawings - none made;

Remarks -- beginning on page 12

Marked up copy of von Oepen '747, Figure 5 - page 16; and

Marked up copy of Globerman '161, Figure 16 - page 17